

REMARKS

THE AMENDMENTS

Applicant has amended the claims to rectify an inadvertent error and to overcome all outstanding objections.

In claim 1, applicant has amended the definition of radical D, line 4, to delete the inadvertent recitation of the word "or". This error arose from the amendment previously presented for claim 1. Applicant has properly inserted the word "or" prior to the last element of the markush group of radical D, namely, "[C₂-C₇]-alkenyl or alkynyl)".

Applicant has amended claim 11 to delete the word "preventing" and replaced therefore the word "treating".

THE REJECTIONS

1. 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, asserting that the specification, while being enabling for treating neuronal damage, does not provide the requisite enablement for preventing neuronal damage.

Applicants have obviated the Examiner's rejection by deleting from claim 11 the word "preventing" and replaced therefore the word "treating".

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the allowability of claims 1-2, 4-7, and 11-12, as amended.

CONCLUSION

Applicant requests that the Examiner enter the above amendments, consider the accompanying arguments and allow the claims to pass to issue. Should the Examiner

believe that a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the present application, he is invited to contact the undersigned at any time.

Respectfully submitted,



Nandakumar Govindaswamy
Limited Recognition
Attorney for Applicants
Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.
130 Waverly Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-4242
Tel.: (617) 444-6619
Fax: (617) 444-6483